

# The Sun

WEDNESDAY MARCH 9, 1904.

Entered at the Post Office at New York as Second-Class Matter.

Subscriptions by Mail, Postpaid.

DAILY, Per Month	50 cts
DAILY, Per Year	5.00
SUNDAY, Per Year	2.00
DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Year	6.00
DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Month	50 cts
Postage to foreign countries added.	

THE SUN, New York City.  
 PARIS—Rue de la Paix, 12, near Grand Hotel, and  
 Kiosque No. 10, Boulevard des Capucines.

If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for publication will send them to the editorial office, they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

## It Would Be an Interesting Race.

South, West, North and East, Democrats wanting to find a statesman who can beat THEODORE ROOSEVELT are anxiously inquiring what running capabilities of the Hon. DAVID BENNETT HILL's candidate, Justice PARKER.

Salient qualities? The estimable and symmetrical gentleman presents to the inquiring vision all the salient qualities of a sphere.

Running capabilities? As far as has yet appeared, the running capabilities of perfect rotundity only. He might with HILL's assistance roll along through a Presidential canvass.

A Roosevelt-Parker campaign would resemble a footrace between a centipede and an Edam cheese.

## Will the Monroe Doctrine Be Threatened in Brazil?

At the time when President CLEVELAND issued his Venezuelan message we pointed out that the boundary dispute between British Guiana and Venezuela was not the only controversy of the kind which would undoubtedly become acute should we acquiesce in Great Britain's avowed resolve to occupy by force territory claimed by a South American republic, while refusing to submit the question of title to arbitration.

We have in mind no fewer than three claims, two of which seemed unlikely to be immediately pressed, while one had already taken definite form, and was being urged with considerable energy. The boundary of British Guiana is as undetermined on the south as it then was on the west, and the discovery of gold near the southern border would undoubtedly have prompted a forcible extension of the territory of England's colony in that direction at the expense of Brazil. But for the position taken by Mr. CLEVELAND, it is not improbable that the southward extension of British Guiana would eventually have reached the Amazon.

Much the same thing may be said of Dutch Guiana. Rich deposits of gold are as likely to be found near the southern confines of that colony as near those of its British neighbor, when expert prospectors shall be able to penetrate the as yet unexplored mountainous region that forms the watershed from which, on one side, flow northern tributaries of the Amazon, and, on the other, rivers that empty into the Caribbean. It is true that the Hague Government, mindful of its naval and military weakness, would scarcely venture upon any high-handed encroachment on territory claimed by Brazil. The situation would be materially changed if Holland, following the example of Bavaria, Saxony and Württemberg, should become a constituent State of the German Empire, for then it would become the interest of the Berlin Government to make the most of Dutch Guiana.

Those were remote contingencies, however. The danger, on the other hand, that the precedent which Great Britain strove to establish by her treatment of Venezuela, would be followed in French Guiana, was obvious and imminent. The boundary between French Guiana, or Cayenne, and Brazil was then the subject of controversy, and French pioneers had begun, in defiance of the Brazilian claim, to push southward and to occupy by force the tract of country lying south of the line alleged by Brazil to be the boundary, a tract valuable for its forest products and agricultural capabilities. Here, too, the objective of the aggressors was, unquestionably, the Amazon; and could their plans have been carried out they would have controlled the mouth of that great estuary, just as British Guiana, but for Mr. CLEVELAND's interposition, would have dominated the mouths of the Orinoco.

For a time it seemed probable that the French would be as successful in dismembering Brazil as the British in mutilating Venezuela. Although, ostensibly, the French invaders of Brazilian territory were disavowed by the Governor of Cayenne, they received so much secret encouragement from the fickle element in the colony that they took formal possession of a large part of the disputed region, and established there what they called an independent republic. That is to say, these French pioneers pursued a course precisely similar to that taken by those Americans who organized a republic in Texas, with a view to its eventual incorporation with the United States. Nor is there any doubt that, had not Great Britain's encroachment upon Venezuela been checked by Mr. CLEVELAND's resolute assertion of the Monroe Doctrine, the pretended commonwealth created by French filibusters would shortly have been annexed to Cayenne.

As it turned out, the French adventurers who aimed to control the mouth of the Amazon met with the ill success of WALKER in Nicaragua, instead of the good fortune of HORTON in Texas. They ceased with their lives, it is true, but their home Government, profiting by the lesson administered to England in the Venezuela affair, refused to countenance their scheme, and entered into an agreement with the Republic of Brazil to leave the settlement of the southern boundary of French Guiana to arbitration. The award rendered at Bern on Dec. 1, 1900, by the Swiss Government, which had been made arbitrator, gave the territory seized by the French filibusters—namely, the territory lying be-

tween the Oyapok and the Araguari rivers—to Brazil. It follows that Frenchmen have now no more pretext for occupying this tract of country than Texans would have for invading the region west of the Rio Grande.

It was to be expected that the Swiss Government's award would be received with some irritation in French Guiana. As a matter of fact, it was denounced as bitterly as was the decision of the Alaskan Boundary Commission by many Canadians. The difference is that the inhabitants of French Guiana are less keenly alive than are the Canadians to the folly of refusing to obey an award. Rumors have been current for some time of a projected renewal of aggression on the formerly disputed territory, now the lawful possession of Brazil; and, according to a recent telegram from Paris, four steamships have been purchased in France for the purpose of conveying a filibustering expedition to the region south of French Guiana.

Such an expedition, if one really be intended, will, of course, be stopped by the French Government when the facts are brought to its attention. Our State Department could not for a moment brook a European invasion of a tract adjudged by an international tribunal to belong to an American republic. Brazil's claim to the protection of the Monroe Doctrine is, obviously, stronger than was that of Venezuela, because the Brazilian title has been adjudged, whereas Venezuela's was disputable at the time when Mr. CLEVELAND insisted on a reference of it to arbitration; and, as a matter of fact, most of the disputed territory was eventually awarded to Great Britain.

## The Massachusetts Method.

"Public Document 43," compiled in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and published under his seal, illustrates one of the peculiar conditions which keep the Bay State politically in a class of its own.

When the present Australian ballot system was adopted by a majority of the States, Massachusetts, unique in some of its political forms and usages, established what was called then and since "the Massachusetts system." Instead of permitting each elector to vote a complete ticket under a party emblem by means of a single cross mark, the "Massachusetts method" required the elector to vote for every candidate separately, the names being printed in groups alphabetically arranged. This plan has been urged for adoption in New York, on the ground that it conduces to political independence.

That the Massachusetts method makes voting more difficult is not denied; that it brings about the good results claimed for it, Public Document 43 disproves in one respect at least. After many years' trial the requirement that each elector shall mark separately each candidate he favors has had the effect of disfranchising many thousands of Massachusetts electors. This is shown in the following table of the total votes for Governor and other State officers in November last, now officially stated:

Governor	806,473
Lieutenant Governor	802,551
Secretary of State	800,758
Treasurer	848,990
Attorney-General	868,390
Auditor	862,546

In other words, 14,000 electors in Massachusetts, where the standard of political intelligence is very high, either did not care or did not understand how to vote for the second name on the ticket. Thirteen thousand other citizens voted for the first and second, but not for the other State officers. Thirty-four thousand electors failed to vote a complete ticket, and this in a State in which, at the election of November last, the Republican plurality for Governor was 35,984.

Public Document 43 is instructive.

## The Religions of Two Women.

Christian Science as a specialty in Biblical interpretation is a purely American product. The "discovery" of it was made known in Mrs. EDDY'S "Science and Health," published in 1875, of which a quarter of a million copies have been sold. Now there are about eight hundred Christian Science churches at home and abroad, with a great aggregate membership.

Theosophy, another new form of religion, was of feminine invention, and may be said to have been launched in this country as a distinct organization. Mme. BLAVATSKY, with whom it originated, was cast under a cloud twenty years ago by exposures of her methods by a clever agent of the Psychological Research Society, but it seems that Theosophy was not quenched. Before us is a considerable quarterly magazine, still published in New York, devoted to its propagation and ostensibly, if not successfully, to its elucidation.

The Theosophical Society was founded here in 1875, or the same year in which Mrs. EDDY made known her "discovery" of Christian Science; and from it, we are told in an address delivered by its secretary last November, "there gradually took shape a stupendous scheme of religious teaching, a coherent system of the laws of the Soul, from which each religion seemed to draw its inspiration and into which each seemed to fit."

Mme. BLAVATSKY was a remarkable woman. She was of Russian birth, of a noble family, and had made herself more or less familiar with the mysterious teachings of the "adepts" in Buddhist philosophy, for she had travelled extensively and lived for many years in India and Tibet. A suspicion was entertained seriously and extensively that she was a Russian spy who hid her secret purposes under a pretence of a religious mission, and the agent of the Psychological Research Society represented her as laughing at the credulity of her serious dupes. She came to New York in 1875, and led here a bohemian sort of life, being remarkable for her rather indignant consumption of cigarettes and also for her license in speech. Unquestionably she had some learning in the occult philosophy of the East; and she knew how to make the most effective use of her store of knowledge, even when

it was actually little, if not wholly assumed.

Theosophy seems to live on in spite of exposure, as this dignified quarterly devoted to the propagation of it bears witness. The secretary of the New York Theosophical Society is a tutor in mathematics in Columbia University, Mr. HENRY BEDINGER MITCHELL. Other societies of the same sort are reported in that magazine as existing in Ohio, Indiana, California and Oregon, and in England and Germany. In Germany is a monthly magazine entitled *Theosophisches Leben*, and there are other organs of the movement in both Europe and this country. The address of the secretary of the New York society makes also a very doubtful claim of sympathy and support among philosophic and scientific minds of contemporary distinction. The Roentgen rays, the Becquerel rays and the discovery of the radiant properties of radium by M. and Mme. CURIE are all appropriated by him as confirmations of the mysticism of Theosophy.

Mme. BLAVATSKY'S Theosophy, however, is of a very limited acceptance as compared with Mrs. EDDY'S religion. Less than two thousand distinct Theosophists are enumerated in this country. A single New York church of the Christian Scientists has more believers, and the "mother church" of the order, at Boston, has many thousands enrolled, though included among them are adherents in other places. It is remarkable that both of these feminine religions, or philosophies, are of feminine origin, and that in both women are made more prominent than in any of the greater Christian churches. Theosophy may be regarded as now the feeble survival of an exploded delusion, but the growth of Christian Science is the most marvellous of modern religious phenomena.

## Lake Bluff and "Joshing."

The Fifty-eighth Congress directed the Secretary of the Navy to appoint a board of naval officers to select a suitable site on the Great Lakes for an additional naval training school and to ascertain and report the value and cost. The board found Lake Bluff, thirty-two miles north of Chicago, the most suitable site, but in view of the high price of land there they suggested as other suitable sites, in the order of their qualifications, Racine, Muskegon, Milwaukee, Michigan City.

The Naval Appropriation bill contains a committee amendment granting \$250,000 for "the purchase of land and the establishment of a naval training station on the shore of Lake Michigan, south of latitude forty-three thirty." Wisconsin, Michigan and Indiana were aroused against Lake Bluff. Senator QUARLES of Wisconsin offered an amendment appointing a new board of not less than three members, "none of whom shall be a resident of any State adjoining Lake Michigan," to select the most available site or a naval training school, and so forth. Then he had fun with Lake Bluff. He was informed that the odor in that vicinity "is only equalled by a tanyard or a sauerkraut factory." He handed about photographs disrespectful to Lake Bluff. "Where is the harbor?" asked Mr. FORAKER. "There is no harbor," answered Mr. QUARLES. Mr. HOPKINS of Illinois asked his honored friend from Wisconsin if these photographs were not taken by a Racine photographer. Yes, but "the sun paints for a Racine photographer quite as faithfully as for a Chicago artist." Mr. HOPKINS suggested that a picture be taken from the point of view from which it is taken.

Mr. FORAKER said that he saw in the photographs plenty of hills, plenty of rapines, and some breakwaters. Lake Bluff is harborless, and "we do want well-fooled sailors." In the course of his speech in celebration of the merits of Lake Bluff, Mr. HOPKINS averred that "Petitons Creek, that runs down there, furnishes a natural harbor." Besides, the young men would have only "a small amount of exercise with rowboats and sailboats." Mr. SPOONER asked the Senators to

"Look at this ravine at Lake Bluff (exhibiting photograph)—a pocket. It would hardly do for a duck pond unless you dredge and cut through the hills back of it. (Laughter.)"

"Mr. HOPKINS—That was taken by a Wisconsin photographer."

"Mr. SPOONER—I think a Wisconsin photographer would take a very handsome picture of the Senator from Illinois. (Laughter.)"

"Mr. HOPKINS—Judging from that, I would not want him to try it. (Laughter.)"

"Mr. SPOONER—If you stood on Lake Bluff when the picture was taken, I do not think you would."

"Mr. HOPKINS—I do not think anybody would recognize it, if that photograph is a fair sample of their work."

"Mr. SPOONER—The Senator from Tennessee (Mr. CARMACK) is looking at the picture. I will ask him what he thinks of it as to harbor facilities."

"Mr. CARMACK—There is no water there."

"Mr. SPOONER—That does not make any difference. (Laughter.)"

"Mr. CARMACK—If it was macadamized it might do. (Laughter.)"

Mr. DRYDEN of New Jersey said ironically: "Horse marines." Mr. FAIRBANKS spoke a good word for an Indiana institution, a naval academy "on Lake Maxinkuckee" (a comparatively small body of water). Unfinished Friday, the discussion was to be continued in our next number of the *Congressional Record*. "The Senate," remarked Mr. GORMAN, "has consumed an entire day in the discussion, interesting and delightful as it has been." It was especially delightful and interesting because of the compliment it was to the engaging and suave accomplishments of a distinguished Chicagoan. Mr. QUARLES buttered the Hon. GEORGE EDMUND FOSS:

"Lake Bluff happens to be within the Congressional district of Mr. FOSS, who is an able Representative in Congress. He holds a very honorable and high position at the head of the great committee on Naval Affairs in the House. I want to say that he not only holds that place, but he fills it with eminent ability. He is a gentleman against whom I would not say one word of whom I would speak only words of commendation. I can understand that it would be the most natural thing that this board of naval officers, or the Navy Department, might feel inclined to defer to his wishes in regard to the selection of a site. But, Mr. President, it ought not to enter as a potent factor into this selection. My good friend Mr. FOSS accompanied this board when they went up to examine these sites. He was in the special train. I do not think he went over to examine the Racine site, but he had sufficient interest in it, so that he was

there presiding. If you please, with his superior influence, holding the purse strings of the navy, as he does, while that board was proceeding to make examinations."

Mr. SPOONER was far from attributing any impropriety to Mr. FOSS. It wasn't necessary for Mr. FOSS to say a word to influence the naval board:

"But the fine presence, the charming smile, the affability, and incidentally the official power in reference to naval legislation of the distinguished gentleman carries with it a hypnotism that the average man cannot resist. The gentleman from Illinois influences everybody with whom he comes in contact—"

"Mr. HOPKINS—Oh—"

"Mr. SPOONER—By that benign smile of his, his grace, carriage and all that. They have influenced me."

Mr. SPOONER suggested that if Lake Bluff were made the site of the school, a statue of Mr. FOSS should be erected there, so that passengers going up and down the ravine might see him. In addition to his other abilities, Mr. SPOONER seems to be the most elaborate "joshing" in the Senate.

## Col. Waterson as a Mythologist.

Col. HENRY WATERTON is not going to be a solitary. He sees the wicked prosper for a season. Backhamites and Brymrites and Heestrites have smitten him. But he will not go to a mountain cell and wash his hands of a world that has got beyond control. In three solid columns he joins the enemy. Forgetting his own beam, he arrays himself in the suit of a brother journalist, the Hon. WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST. If Mr. HEARST is regularly nominated by the St. Louis convention, the Colonel will support him.

True, Mr. HEARST is wholly untrained in public affairs; wholly unknown, not only to the country, but to the constitution he serves in Congress, and his colleagues on the floor wholly a myth as to his own identity.

Yet the Colonel, who has been in Congress himself, where his long, illustrious and fruitful service is still remembered with admiration, will be true to his young friend, if necessity arises.

While Mr. HEARST has not been trained in public affairs, as the Colonel has, there are points of contact and sympathy between the two statesmen. If Mr. HEARST is "wholly unknown," it is because, like Col. WATERTON, he has invincibly modesty and shrouds himself systematically from the public gaze.

## A Democratic Opportunity.

From the *Gloversville Morning Herald*.  
 An exchange facetiously remarks that "Governor Johnson's aim that he may stand for the term 'warmly' supported by the Democrats." Yes, the Democrats of the State of New York are not dismayed by the Odell proposition, however hard or tough the Government by the consent of the government may have found it to be, since they have full confidence in the grim determination of the good people of the State of New York to this year rescue the State from the grasp of the Democratic influence of Odellism and graft by the election of a full complement of Democratic State officers. Thus will the people come into their own again and we will have government by the consent of the governed and not by the edict of the "boss," be he tough or otherwise.

## Population of China.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: According to the latest census taken by Imperial China, the population of that empire consisted of 439,325,000 persons, divided thus:  
 China proper, eighteen provinces..... 407,787,325  
 Manchuria..... 8,800,000  
 Mongolia..... 8,250,000  
 Tibet..... 2,487,675  
 Chinese Turkestan..... 2,000,000

These are the figures as ascertained for the purpose of reassessing taxes and as published in Chinese and Russian newspapers.

S. B. BELL, Editor of the *China Mail*.

## Masons and the Christian Religion.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: I note in yesterday's issue of the *World* an account of the Roman Catholic diocese of Hartford, in his official church organ, refers to the Masons as "those whose ultimate aim is to overthrow and destroy the Christian religion." I have been one of those who have ever been the cause of the Roman Catholic Church attacked even by so much as a word. We Masons are too busy burying our dead, and too busy with the living, to have time to care for the Roman Catholic Church, or to have time to waste in attacking the Roman Church, for which we have the greatest respect and admiration. I have never heard the Roman Church attacked even by so much as a word. We Masons are too busy burying our dead, and too busy with the living, to have time to care for the Roman Catholic Church, or to have time to waste in attacking the Roman Church, for which we have the greatest respect and admiration. I have never heard the Roman Church attacked even by so much as a word. 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